

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 155**

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TO: The Honorable Glenn McConnell, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
FROM: Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board
ANALYSTS: Rodney P. Grizzle
DATE: February 3, 2009 SBD: 2009120

AUTHOR: Senator Campsen PRIMARY CODE CITE: 20-7-9900
SUBJECT: Military Parent Equal Protection Act

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
Minimal (Some additional costs expected but can be absorbed)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 155 amends the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by Article 33 which enacts the, "Military Parent Equal Protection Act". This Act provides requirements for child support orders and visitation when one parent is deployed on active duty military service. The Bill also prohibits a family court from entering a final order modifying custody or visitation while the military parent is on active duty and that active duty is not to be considered as a change in circumstance of custody and visitation issues.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Judicial Department indicates this Bill will have a minimal impact on the General Fund of the State, which can be absorbed by the agency at current level of funding. Due the nature of family court hearings, compliance with the Act will require more time on the part of the family court judge and therefore delay the court docket. There would be no impact on Federal and/or Other funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget